

MARINA CENTER MIXED-USE PROJECT EIR
Police Department Questionnaire

RECEIVED
JUN 29 2006
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. Please provide the number of police stations in Eureka and their location.

Police headquarters is located at 604 C Street, in Beat 1.

Housing Authority Police Annex is located at Eureka Housing Authority in Beat 2

Old Town Police Annex is located at 3rd and E Streets in Beat 1.

In progress: Bayshore Mall Police Annex located at 3300 Broadway in Beat 2.

2. Please confirm the number of patrol beats in the City, in which patrol beat the project site is located. How many officers are assigned to this beat per shift?

3 patrol beats, with the project located in Beat 1. There is currently one officer assigned to Beat 1 per shift. Old Town is located in Beat 1. The officer assigned to Old Town is present four days per week. On some days staffing may allow for a "rover" who patrols throughout the City.

3. How many calls for service did the Police Department receive for 2005? How many calls for service in Beat 1?

In 2005, the Department received 41,085 calls for service. 15,633 of them were in Beat 1.

4. What is the Department's current staff.

The Department is allocated for 49 sworn officers. We are currently down 7 positions, with 42 sworn officers.

We also employ 5 Police Services Officer, who perform similar duties to Police Officers, except to enforce the law and make arrests. (They take reports, respond to non-injury traffic collisions, etc.)

5. During 2005 (or the most current year available), how many incidents were reported citywide and in the vicinity of the project site. Please characterize the nature of these incidents.

Refer to attached pages.

6. What is the Police Department's current average emergency response time for the city and to the project site (if available)? Would the proposed project be expected to substantially affect response times?

The emergency response time average to any point in the City is 4 minutes.

The emergency response time to the project site is 2 minutes.

No.

RECEIVED

JUN 29 2006

DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

7. Would the Police Department require additional personnel, equipment, or a new or expanded facility to maintain adequate levels of service at the project site or citywide as a result of the proposed project?

1 full time police officer and 1 full time police services officer

8. If the answer to the above question is yes are there plans for increases in personnel, equipment, and/or facilities to accommodate future growth, either as a result of growth at the project site or citywide?

Additional personnel are requested each year in the budget process. Refer to the attached pages for a 10-year staffing comparison.

9. Does the Department have any current plans for new police stations (by 2020)?

No

RECEIVED

JUN 29 2006

DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

EPD Staffing – 10 years – Then and Now

	Main Police	Communications Center
FY 96/97 – Adopted Budget	74.59	10.0
FY 06/07 – Preliminary Budget	68.00	11.0
10 year difference (FTEs)	-6.59	+1.0

Calls for service difference 1996 and 2005 is +12,481 = 43.6% increase

Eureka Police Department Minimum Staffing Needs - Summary

Two (2) FTE Police Service Officers (PSOs)

At the October 4, 2005, City Council meeting, Council approved staff recommendations that the Eureka City Council and Redevelopment Agency adopt a Resolution and approve findings to provide funds for temporary security services intended to strengthen and enhance the Core Redevelopment Area including the Old Town District, and authorize staff to enter into contract with a qualified private security firm to provide the temporary security services.

Council further recommended hiring two Police Service Officers (PSOs) instead of private security officers for one additional fiscal year (2006-07). The PSO is a provisional unarmed officer (subordinate to Police Officer) hired, trained and coordinated directly through our Police Dept. If approved, the one-year extension would comprise a 20-month pilot program. The funding for any extension would be pursued through the City's budget process.

While the private security personnel are doing an excellent job, under the current recommendation, the use of private security officers is intended as a temporary measure while our Police Dept. completes the lengthy process of hiring two Police Service Officers (PSOs) to assist in performing these duties. In general, PSOs are more effective and practical than private security forces, and for many years we have hired PSOs to perform a wide variety of policing duties (subordinate to accredited Police Officers) in the city. Any hiring of PSOs to assist with Old Town security will require approval by the Council.

(With the adoption of the FY 03/04 budget, the City Council authorized a hiring freeze for all non-public safety positions. We must seek approval to an exception to the hiring freeze because prior vacant PSO positions were eliminated completely due to personnel reductions made necessary by the last several years' budget cuts.)

The use of tax increment funds for new, temporary and limited security services in the core area can be found to meet these goals and objectives, and further will work to directly stimulate new private development.

Primary use of the two new PSOs in the Redevelopment area would allow a return to PSO reports, which were changed to "mail out" in November of 2004 due to workload and staffing reduction issues. This type of reporting, while necessary, is very unpopular within the Police Department and upsets the public.

One (1) Crime/Traffic Analyst

Previous fiscal year budget reductions forced the elimination of the Police Department Crime Analyst position. This has resulted in an inability to consistently track and target crime and related issues. Requests for information from Council, City staff and the public have also been declined because there was no longer an analyst trained and able to extract, review and provide the information. At a minimum, coupled with reassignment of job requirements for other positions, a Police Records Specialist must be hired.

The currently approved State Office of Traffic Safety grant approved a portion of a Police Records Specialist position pay and benefits to track and provide data entry and analysis for the grant. \$21,162.32 in grant funds will offset a substantial portion of FY 06/07 costs. FY 07/08 is also partially funded, allowing restoration of a level of previous services.

The west side committees have recommended and staff is supporting a large increase in the number of operational Neighborhood Watch groups. The benefits of these groups are apparent but regular and coordinated crime/problem analysis is essential. Your Police Department and the Community need the information. Restoring this position will provide the ability to track, target and report on crime, trends and related issues.

One (1) Police Service Officer (PSO) – Vehicle Abatement

The high volume of vehicle abatement issues severely limit the ability of our staff to address other neighborhood oriented policing issues. The current temporary employee staffing level cannot handle the workload associated with this problem. A full time equivalent (1 FTE) position is needed. Some costs will be offset by reimbursement from the Abandoned Vehicle fund coordinated by the County.

Two (2) Police Service Officers (PSOs) – General Fund

These PSOs are urgently needed to assist in our ongoing and repeatedly stated attempts to increase the level of civilian field reporting, investigations and evidence assists, thereby freeing up sworn officers and improving service to our community. Additionally, regulations of the California Department of Corrections regarding continual presence of trained and qualified personnel when a person is in custody will result in additional police officer time off the street unless PSOs are hired to cover night hours.

*One position is anticipated to be funded effective January 2007.

Neighborhood Oriented Policing

While these personnel are needed and should be budgeted, Police Service Officers are currently the highest priority for new personnel since the Police Department can only train five new officers at a time. This means current vacancies cannot be filled and trained for solo patrol prior to late in the budget year. The positions listed below are still the minimums necessary to restore Neighborhood Oriented Policing when added to other personnel listed above.

- 1 Police Sergeant
- 4 Police Officers
- 1 Detective
- 1 Animal Control Officer
- 1 Records Specialist
- 1 Dispatcher*

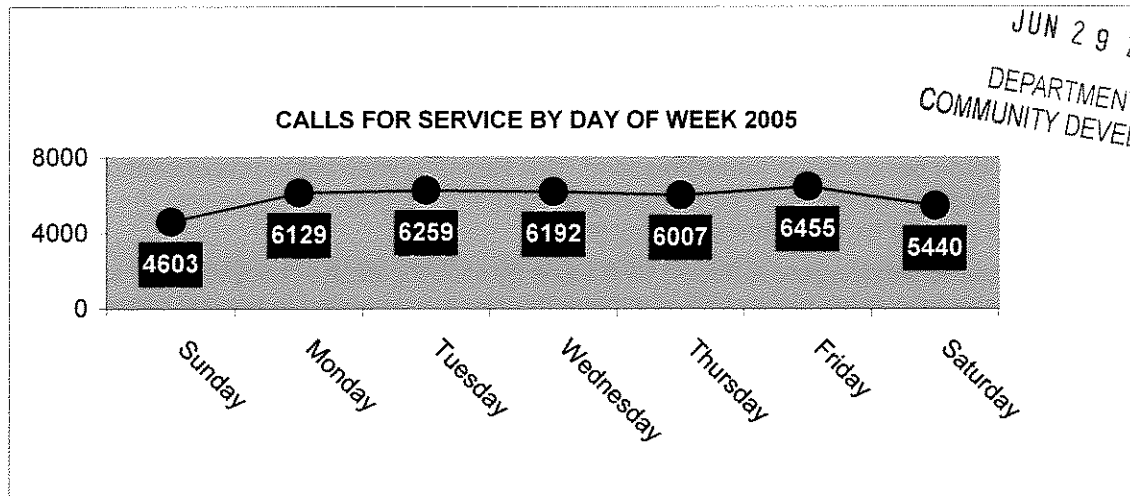
Actual Staffing Estimated Need: \$1,390,000

* In proposed City budget – effective January 2007 if the Utility Tax renewal is approved by voters.

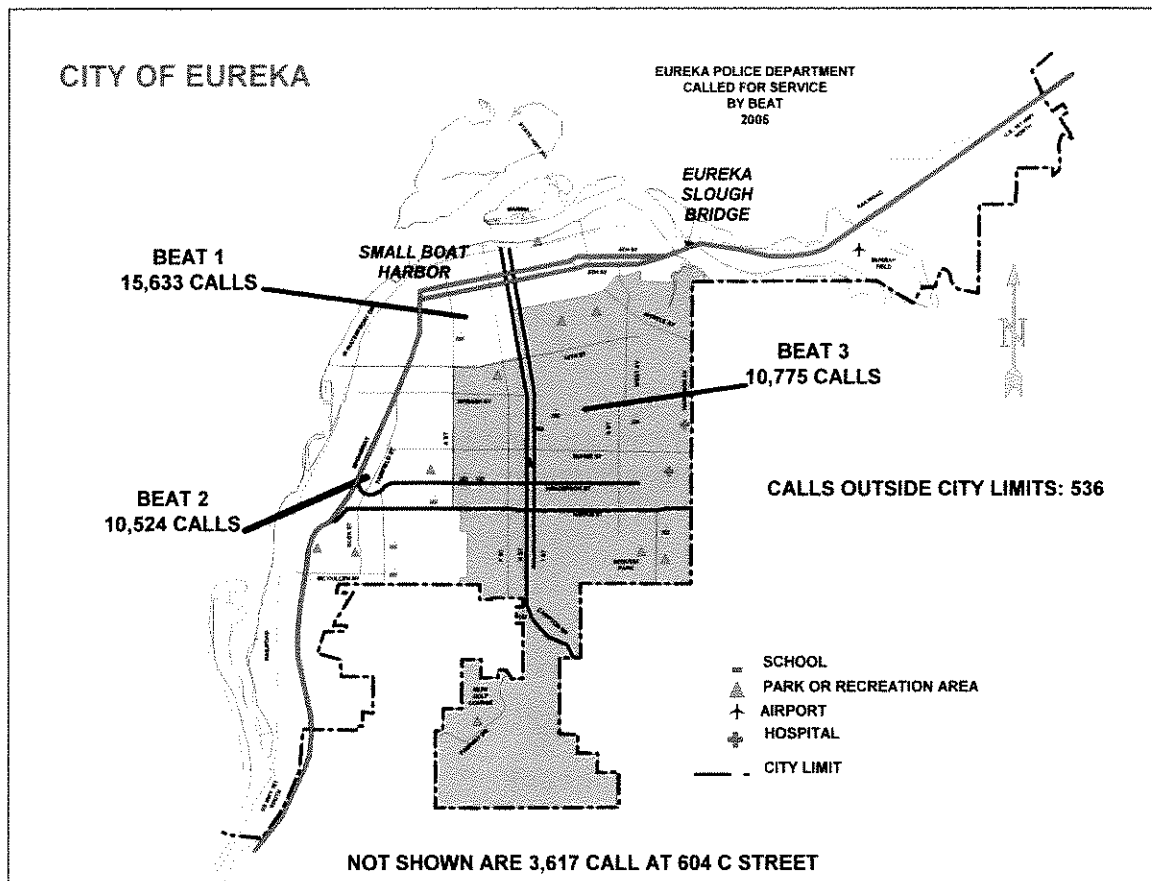
RECEIVED

JUN 29 2006

DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



The map below shows Called For Service volume in the three primary beats (assigned patrol areas) utilized by the Eureka Police Department. These primary beats are re-evaluated and adjusted as necessary to insure public safety and/or equity in work assignment.



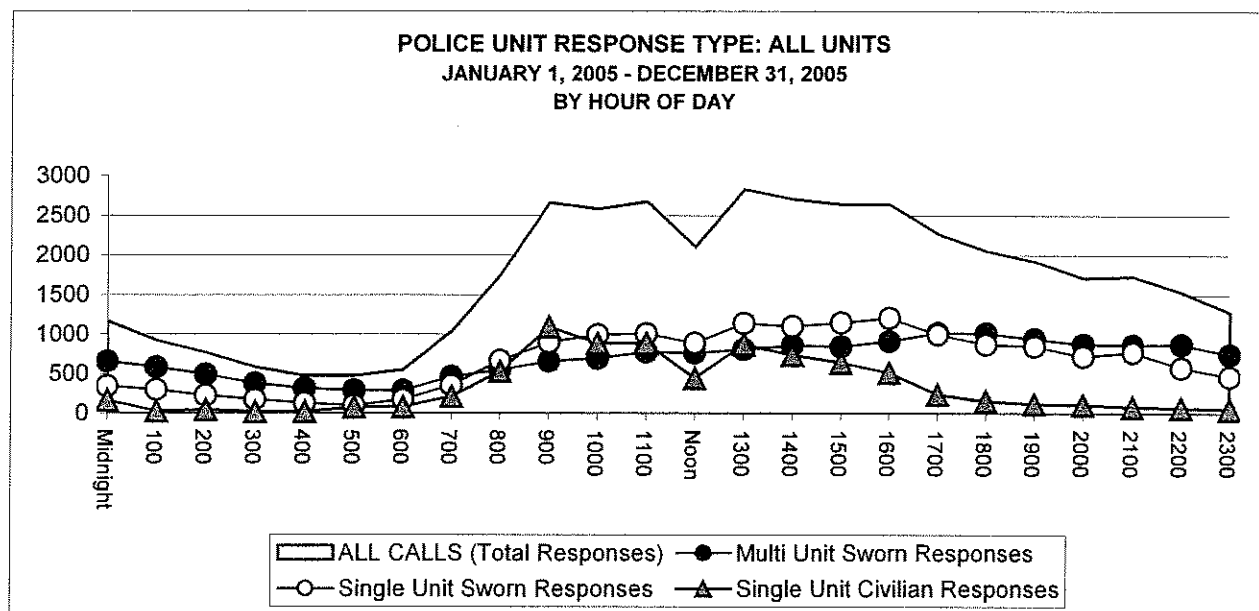
NOTE: Total tracked calls for service during 2005 was 41,085. Calls for service assigned to police headquarters at 604 C Street (3,617) are not shown above. These calls can be for any part of the city and / or may require service unique to the Eureka Police Department. Additionally it should be noted that 59 calls could not be assigned to any beat / address because of address matching failure and were not counted in the totals. (In 2004, CFS totaled 39,590, with Beat 1 having 13,348 calls, Beat 2 having 12,020 calls and Beat 3 having 10,198 calls, 3468 calls were at EPD, 493 outside the City, and 63 had no address match.)

The graph below displays all Called For Service for the year 2005, both sworn and civilian level responses, measured by the time the call occurred and whether the call type required one or more units (police personnel) to handle/respond. This Report is intended to present annual workload so monthly variations by hour and day of week are not graphed. However, the information is tracked for determining staffing levels.

While many public safety agencies report CFS totals by counting each employee or vehicle assigned (resulting in much higher CFS numbers) this report is intended to provide baseline information from which the higher numbers are obtained.

During peak days and hours police personnel were responding to an average of over seven new calls per hour in addition to their self initiated activity. Even though two or more units were dispatched to 40.75% of total Called For Service, by policy each of these is counted as a single call. Where multiple units became involved in a dispatched single unit call, unless the call type was changed to multi unit, the CFS is still reported as a single unit call in this report.

While traffic is a large percentage of officer-initiated activity, it represents only 4.68% of CFS.



	Amount	%
Multi Unit Sworn Responses	16,743	40.75%
Single Unit Sworn Responses	16,159	39.33%
Single Unit Civilian Responses ¹	8,183	19.92%
ALL CALLS (Total Responses)	41,085	100.00%

2004 totals – Multi sworn = 16,400; Single sworn = 16,405; Civilian = 6,785; total 39,590

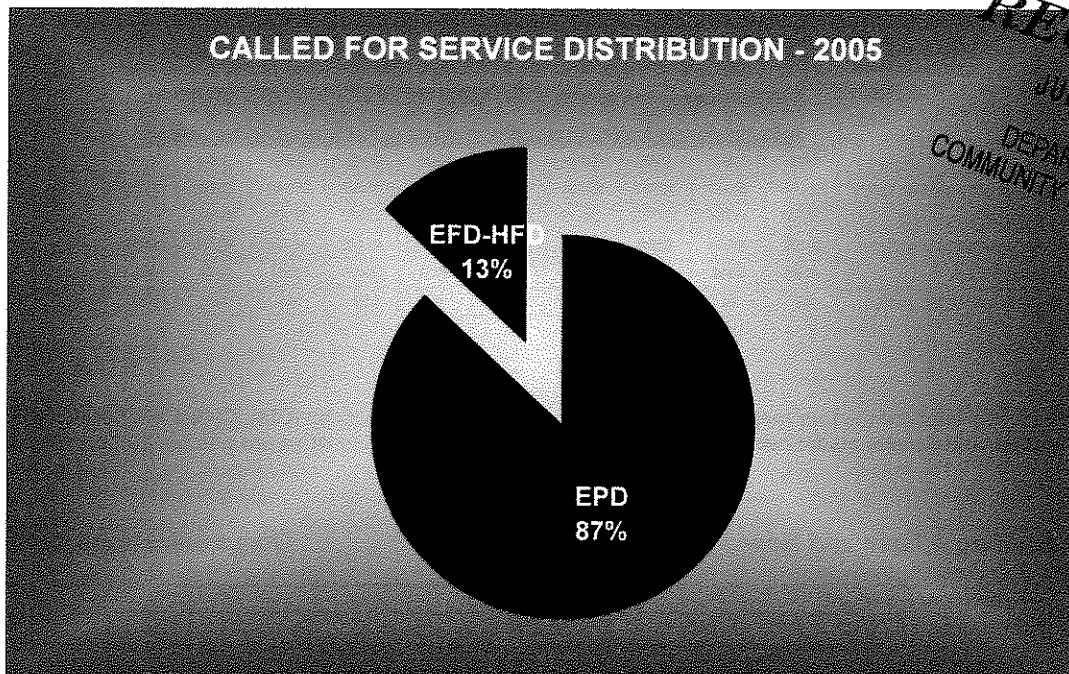
NOTE: Total Calls For Service (All Calls) is the total of the three response types shown and is indicated on the graph as the yellow or shaded area in the background. The lines with points marking each hour, in the foreground of the graph, indicate the volume of calls for each response type during each hour. The chart (directly above) indicates the amount and percentage of calls handled by each response type during the year 2005. (2005 was the busiest year for Police calls-for-service from our citizens in the history of the Eureka Police Department.. 2004 was the previous busiest year for CFS.)

¹ Animal control represented 23.01% and dispatch/records handled .05% of civilian called for service.

EUREKA PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER WORKLOAD SUMMARY

	2004	2005	(=/-%)
Incoming E 911 Telephone Calls	21,272	22,273	4.7%
Incoming Routine Telephone Calls	95,013	98,131	3.3%
Called For Service Dispatched	44,744	48,894	9.4%
Self Initiated Activity Handled	41,562*	43,184*	3.4%

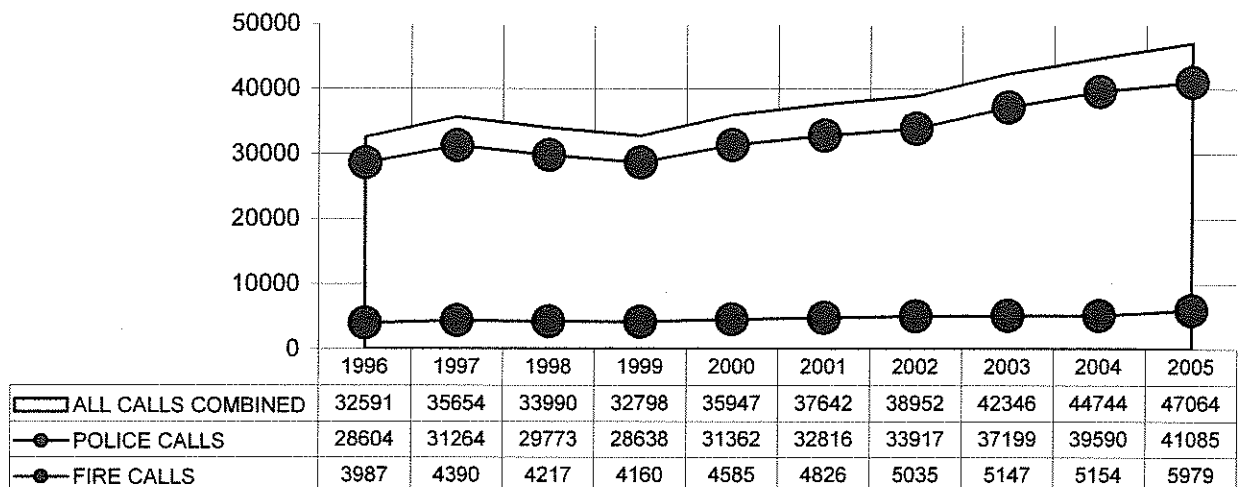
- Includes all types of self-initiated activity logged to the Computer-Aided Dispatch System (CAD).
- Police administrative and "personal" self-initiated activity are not counted elsewhere in this report.



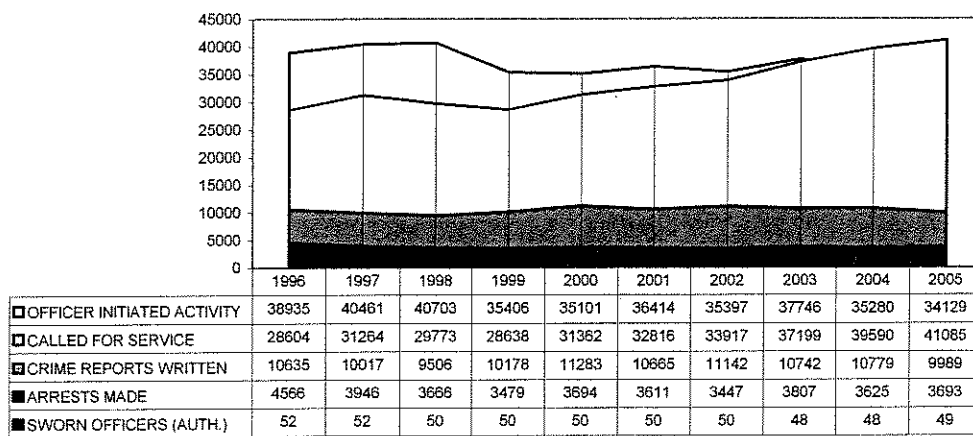
RECEIVED
JUN 29 2006
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Center provides communications services for the Eureka Police Department, the Eureka Fire Department, and the Humboldt Fire District. All Calls (represented by the blocked area in the background of the above chart) reached the highest annual levels in the history of the center in 2005 with 47,064 calls being handled by communications dispatchers. The previous high was 44,744 calls for service in 2004.

TEN-YEAR CALLS FOR SERVICE TREND



Police Workload Trends



The above chart compares the four major workload factors (Officer Initiated Activity (OIA), Called For Service (CFS), Reports written, and Arrests made) over a ten-year period along with the number of sworn officers authorized during each year.

10 year Staffing – Then and Now

FY 96/97 – Adopted Budget

FY 06/07 – Preliminary Budget

10 year difference (FTEs)

Main Police

74.59

68.00

-6.59

Communications Center

10.0

11.0

+1.0

Calls for service difference 1996 and 2005 is +12,481 = 43.6% increase

Called For Service (CFS) levels increased significantly between 1999 and 2005; ended with 2005 being the highest year ever for this service. Officer Initiated Activity (OIA) levels could no longer keep pace with Called For Service during this period and by the end of 2004 the difference between the two services was readily apparent. This situation is comparable, but more serious than 1994 and 1995 when Officer Initiated Activity fell below Called For Service (CFS – 37,758 and 35,557) for the first time. Grant funding¹ for staffing and overtime is largely responsible for maintaining the levels of Officer Initiated Activity through 2005 and avoiding a deeper crisis in preventive patrol².

Federal community policing grants increased sworn officers during the mid 1990's. Budgetary constraints necessitated reductions in later years. A federal "Cops In Schools" grant funded police officer (School Resource Officer) is included in the 2003 through 2004 sworn officer number of 48. A state Office of Traffic Safety Grant funded a Police Traffic Officer in late 2004. By year end, authorized sworn officer positions increased to 49.

Of particular concern is the upward trend of CFS beginning in 1999 and showing serious and increasing imbalance with OIA by the end of 2005. An average monthly increase exceeding 1000 CFS since 1999, coupled with staff reductions, is now reducing the efficiency and effectiveness of police services. Should this trend continue and OIA is not supported through grant funding, staffing or other allocations, preventive patrol and all other community-based activities will continue to decrease as the workload imbalance increases.

¹ Federal Community Policing grants obtained in late 1993 and 1994, coupled with implementation of a City Utility Tax in September 1994, were responsible for hiring additional Police Officers and formation of a dedicated team to address Community issues. By the end of 1996, CFS had fallen by 6,953 and OIA increased by 4,067. The last of these grants ended in mid-1998, resulting in a reduction in authorized Police Officer positions. By late 1999 CFS had begun the current six-year climb as the City has coped with local and State budget crises. Since mid 2000 a combination of State Office Of Traffic Safety (2000 – 2005) and Federal (2003-2005) funding has allowed increased Officer Initiated Activity through use of overtime for the purpose of improving traffic safety and crime prevention. (see below.)

² Preventive Patrol, sometimes referred to as Proactive Patrol or Directed Patrol, involves having sufficient time available for officers to establish a "presence" in their assigned areas. Certain crimes can be reduced or eliminated if police presence in an area is sufficiently high that it prevents criminals from committing crimes. Officers not constantly responding to calls for service are more likely to see other crimes, such as drunk drivers, stolen vehicles and warrant suspects, and generally be more aware of what is going on in their assigned area. Uncommitted patrol time is also essential for officers to engage in problem oriented and other community-based activities which are critical to the long-term success in crime and community-related problems.